SUNKEN FERRY "ESTONIA" TO BE PROTECTED. The Finnish Foreign Ministry on 17 February said that Estonia, Finland, and Sweden are to ban access to the ferry "Estonia," which sank off the Finnish coast on 28 September at a cost of more than 900 lives. The three countries will sign an agreement stating that attempts to raise victims or objects from the ferry will be punished. The statement says: "The spot is regarded as being the grave of the victims which the governments wish to be respected as their place of burial." -- Saulius Girnius, OMRI, Inc.

From the Joint Baltic American National Committee:

Russia's brutal attack on Grozny and its civilian population has left a city of 400,000 nearly empty, its former residents now refugees seeking shelter in the mountains around the capital. The indiscriminate bombing has reduced Grozny to rubble. According to a New York Times reporter, "it was impossible...to find a building that had remained undamaged...Huge fires raged in several parts of the city." Newspaper headlines scream of Russian troop brutality against civilians.

What can YOU do while the Chechens are courageously fighting for not only their freedom, but for the freedom of all peoples against Russian imperial domination? You can assist the innocent victims of this struggle by donating to the American Red Cross "Chechnya Relief" fund.

- Send your check to the: American Red Cross
  "Chechnya Relief"
  P.O. Box 37243
  Washington, DC 20013

- Credit Card donations may be made by calling the American Red Cross at 1-800-842-2200.
- Donations may also be made through your local American Red Cross chapter.
- PLEASE SPECIFY THAT YOUR DONATION IS FOR THE CHECHNYA RELIEF FUND.
- For more information, please contact the American Red Cross at (703) 206-7090.